



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiro YAMAGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2629

Application No.: 09/940,801

Examiner: D. DINH

Filed: August 29, 2001

Docket No.: 110491

For: IMAGE DISPLAY MEDIUM, IMAGE DISPLAY DEVICE, AND IMAGE DISPLAY METHOD

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the December 21, 2007 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elects Species I, as illustrated in Fig. 6 and 7, with traverse.

At least claims 1-14 and 16-18 read on the elected species.

Claims 1-13, 17 and 18 are generic to all the species, because Figs. 6-9 differ only in the position of the light source and the presence or absence of a prism. The claims other than claims 14-16 do not limit the position of the light source, and none define whether or not a prism is present.

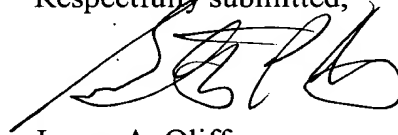
It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire

application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

JAO/HXT:amw

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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